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1949-50
(CB)

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Previous References.

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GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos. One

Part B for 1950 49

SUBJECT

Agreements with the Government of India - Postal, Telegraph and Telephones. ——

29/11

Agreements with the Govt of India.

'Postal Arrangement'- Since 1887 when the Mysore Postal System was transferred to the control of British India, the postal administration in the State is being carried on by the Govt of India.

The Papers relating to the Mysore Treaty are put up

Ref- Telegraph

Article 13 of "The Mysore Treaty of 1913" runs as under

'The Maharaja of Mysore shall grant free of all charge such land as may be required for the construction of and working of lines of telegraph in the said territories wherever the Governor-General in Council may require such land and shall do his utmost to facilitate the construction and working of such lines. All lines of telegraph in the

Re: Agreements with the Govt of India etc

said territories, whether constructed and
maintained at the expense of the British
Govt or out of the revenues of the said territories,
shall form part of the British Telegraph
System and shall, save in cases to be
specially excepted by agreement between the
British Govt and the Maharaja of Mysore,
be worked by the British Telegraph System
Dept; and all laws and rules for the
time being in force in British India
in respect to Telegraphs shall apply
to such lines of telegraph when so
worked."

(No such agreement exists)

Telephones:

As a result of recent discussions
with the Govt of India it is proposed to
transfer the administration of the Telephones
(apart from the requirements of the Electrical Dept)
to the Govt of India.

May this be recorded?

Yes
Secretary
18/11/49

Yes
8/10/49

Yes
10/11/49

MYSORE ANCHE.

No. 2495-I.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Foreign Department, dated Simla, the 29th July 1885.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council observes that the responsibility of Native States for mail robberies committed within their territories is defined in the Resolution of the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, No. 1095, dated the 18th July 1866, which prescribes the following rules for general observance:—

I. "Every State is responsible for the secure passage through its territory of the Government mail and parcel post.

II. "Where mails or parcel posts are plundered with impunity in consequence of inefficient arrangements for their security on the high roads traversing a State, that State will be required to increase the guards which accompany the mails and to strengthen its police stations along the high roads, or the same will be done by the British Government at the expense of the Native State.

III. "Where mails or parcel posts are plundered, the Native State into which the plunderers are traced, and out of which they cannot be traced, will be expected to levy compensation from the district for the value of the plundered miles or parcel posts.

IV. "In estimating such compensation, no exemption whatever is to be made on account of bullion, jewellery, or other articles of great intrinsic value.

V. "Where men are disabled for life, or killed in the defence, or in the carriage, of Government mails or parcel posts, claims to pensionary grants will be held to lie against the State held responsible for the outrage."

2. These rules assert in more unqualified terms than had previously been used the absolute responsibility of Native States for mail robberies occurring within their territories. Consequently the doctrine has gained ground that police efficiency cannot be pleaded as absolving a Native State from liability, and that this liability may be enforced even if the theft or robbery is attributable to the conduct of officials of the British Post Office.

3. Since the promulgation of these rules the matters provided for by them have been considered by the Government of India on several occasions and in various shapes. It appears that full effect cannot properly be given in all cases to the rules as they stand; while Her Majesty's Secretary of State, under whose notice the subject has come, is of opinion that due regard should be paid to the efficiency of the State police, and to the vigilance displayed by the Durbar's officials in endeavouring to bring offenders to justice. These views will now be adopted by modifying the existing rules; which, moreover, need revision in certain points of detail.

4. Accordingly the Governor-General in Council is pleased, after consulting Local Governments and Administrations, to substitute the following rules regarding mail robberies in Native States for those prescribed in the Foreign Department Resolution No. 1095, dated the 18th July 1866:—

I. Every Native State is responsible for the secure passage through its territory of the Imperial mail and parcel post, and every Native State in the territory of which the Imperial mail or parcel post is robbed is *prima facie* liable.

(1) to pay to the British Government the full value of whatever is taken or destroyed by the robbers, *and*

(2) to pay such compensation as the British Government requires to carriers of the mail or other persons, or to their families, in the event of the carriers or other persons being injured or killed in connection with the robbery.

Explanations—

(*a*) The term "mail" includes any letter, parcel or other article conveyed under the Provisions of the Indian Post Office Act, XIV of 1866, as well as any box, bag, or other article, or any carriage, horse, messenger or other person, employed or used by the Post Office for the conveyance or safe custody of mails.

(*b*) No exemption shall be allowed in estimating the abovementioned payment or compensation on account of bullion, jewellery or other articles of great intrinsic value.

(*c*) This rule does not affect the liability of the British Post Office to make good, under its departmental rules of insurance, the value of insured articles committed to its charge.

II. If a mail robbery is committed in the territory of one State, and the tracks of the robbers are traced into the territory of another State or States, and there lost, the *prima facie* liability for the robbery shall generally be shared in equal proportions by the State in which the robbery occurs, and the State or States into which the robbers are finally tracked.

Explanation.—This rules hall not be held to necessitate minute or inconvenient apportionment of liability between several States; and, if doubts or complications arise, the *prima facie* liability shall be held, to rest upon the State in which the mail robbery may have been committed.

III. A Native State to whom the *prima facie* liability defined above attaches, may plead in extenuation thereof facts showing—

(1) that its police arrangements are efficient, especially with regard to the protection of the mail routes passing through its territories and that it has displayed zeal and energy in bringing, or in attempting to bring, the robbers to justice;

(2) that the robbery was committed, without complicity on the part of any of its own subjects, or contributory negligence on the part of its own local authorities, by a servant of the British Post Office.

Explanation—

The mere infrequency of mail robberies shall not alone be regarded as an extenuating circumstance, or as evidence of police efficiency.

IV. The compensation paid by Native States in discharge of the liability defined in clause 1 (1), and the balances of existing "Mail-robbery Funds," shall be credited to the miscellaneous revenue of the Post Office of India; and the Director-General of the Post Office may at his discretion award to consignors or consignees the whole or part of compensation payments to make good loss caused by the robbery of articles which are neither insured nor of great intrinsic value.

V. If, owing to the inefficiency of the protective system in any Native State, mail robberies are allowed to become frequent and to remain unpunished, the Government of India or the Local Government, may, in addition to the enforcement of the pecuniary liability above defined, require the State to take such measures as may appear necessary and desirable for securing the safety of the mail; and, in the default of the State, may cause such measures to be carried out by Government agency at the expense of the State.

ORDER.—A copy of this Resolution should be forwarded for information and guidance to the Financial Department of the Government of India, to all Local Governments and Administrations (except British Burmah), to the Director-General

of the Post Office of India, and to the General Superintendent of Operations for the suppression of Thagi and Dacoity.

(A ture extract.)
H. M. DURAND,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

From the Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, to the Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, No. 1421—273, dated Bangalore, 31st August 1885.

I am directed to forward for the information of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, a copy of Resolution No. 2495 I., dated 29th July 1885, received from the Government of India, embodying the rules which have finally been adopted for defining and limiting the responsibility of Native States for mail robberies committed within their territories.

From the Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, to the Dewan of Mysore, No. 1313—215, dated Bangalore, 13th September 1884.

I am desired by the Resident to forward for the consideration of the Darbar copy of letter No. 5424, dated 6th August 1884, and printed enclosure in original from the Director-General of the Post Office in India regarding proposals for a Postal convention with Mysore.

From the Officiating Director-General of the Post Office of India, to the Resident in Mysore, No. 5424, dated Simla, 6th August 1884.

In reference to the accompanying letter from the Government of India, I have the honor to request that you will kindly lay before the Mysore Darbar the following proposal.

2. I am willing to take over the whole of the Mysore Postal Establishments, pay them from Imperial revenues and treat Mysore in all Postal matters exactly as if it were the most favored British Province. I am prepared also to recommend to the Government of India the creation of the post of a Deputy Post Master General, Mysore, on the usual salary in direct subordination to myself to which I should be willing to nominate the present Anche Bakshi. Under this arrangement State correspondence would be carried at the cheap official Postage rates, prepaid by service stamps. One condition on which this proposal is based is, that the complete control of Postal arrangements is surrendered by the Darbar to myself.

3. I may state that this is exactly the arrangement at present in force in another first class State, *viz.*, Baroda. And it seems to me quite obvious that it is to the interest of the Government of Mysore, the officials, the traders and the public generally that the resources and experience of my department should be shared by them, rather than that they should remain an isolated community at best endeavouring to imitate the Imperial system in a necessarily imperfect manner. I believe that the postal service is now worked at a loss to the State of more than a lakh of rupees. Of this loss I am ready to relieve the State.

4. An informal communication I had in May last with some of His Highness the Maharaja's officials leads me to suppose that this proposal may not be viewed favorably. The Mysore Government has an elaborate, and I am free to admit, an efficient local postal organization, which I was told it will not willingly surrender. Still the proposal I have made seems to me the one which is most likely to produce the most satisfactory and efficient results. And I beg therefore formally to repeat it. I should be much obliged by your kindly laying it before the Darbar and I trust you will use your good offices in inducing them to accept it. I need scarcely point out that the essence of a well managed postal system is centralization and absolute uniformity of rules and organization. Nothing will compensate for the absence of these. Further, there is absolutely no political interference involved in the transfer of the carriage of mails to an organization confessedly well capable of managing it. In fact, I believe, that the popularity which I may claim for the Post Office as having gained alike in British Territory and in those Native States where it manages the daks is due to its comparatively humble character. The prestige and the

power wielded by Revenue, Judicial or Political establishments is entirely wanting to the Post Office. I could understand the Darbar objecting to the transfer of any of the establishments just named to the Imperial Government. But the Post Office has no authority of its own. It renders certain services on payment for those services, and no more. It seems to me therefore that the Darbar might as safely and as certainly without loss to its dignity, entrust the Imperial Post Office with the management of its daks as a Native State on the coast might entrust a British Steamship Company with the performance of certain mail or other services without in the least claiming a voice in the management of the ship or in the nomination of the Captain.

5. Should however the Government of Mysore consider that its own interests and the interests of its subjects are better served by the retention of the existing separate organization than in the participation of the benefits which its incorporation which the Imperial Post Office would confer, I have the honor to make an alternative proposal which is based on an arrangement recently made with a Native in the Punjab and which is on the eve of ratification by the Government of India. As far as the efficiency of the local Post Office is concerned, this arrangement is infinitely less preferable than that first made. For it fails to secure for the local Postal Officers the supervision and the care of the Imperial Department. But in default of a better, I should be willing to agree to it.

6. The main points in the alternative proposal would be as follows:—

I. Mysore to adopt all British rules and rates of postage.

II. Mysore to use British postage stamps over-printed *Mysore* which will be supplied to it for the mere cost of manufacture.

III. All paid correspondence transferred from British Post Offices to Mysore to be delivered free.

IV. Each Post Office to keep whatever it collects either in stamps or bearing postage, prepayment not being compulsory on either side except in the case of articles specially named. The charges on unpaid correspondence levied by Mysore to be the same as levied by the British Post Office.

V. Mysore to arrange for the introduction of the Money Order, Insurance, Value Payable, Postal Notes and other systems, peculiar to the Indian Post Office on the British system retaining any fees it earns on account of them.

VI. The Money Order and other documents giving rise to accounts to be exchanged by selected offices on the frontier accounts will be rendered monthly.

VII. Mysore to be responsible for the value of insured articles lost by it in transit in Mysore Territory and the British Post Office for those lost by it in transit in British Territory. The above arrangements refer to Inland Post. It will be seen that though Mysore can never have to carry a letter more than 250 or 300 miles, it will retain the whole of its postage, and the British Post Office will carry the letter 2,000 or 3,000 miles further for nothing. Further, that if the British Post Office delivers to Mysore a bearing letter which it has carried 3,000 miles, Mysore will keep the postage it collects on it, and India will get nothing. Thus the great advantage which Mysore will gain in the arrangement is apparent. The British Post Office will also give up to Mysore all the postage it now gains on British letters posted in Mysore, a very considerable sum.

As regards official correspondence:—

VIII. The benefit of official postal rates will be extended to Mysore and over-printed service stamps supplied at cost price for use in the limits of Mysore.

Mysore State officials (of whom a list must be given) will be allowed to use *British* service stamps at specified British Post Offices outside Mysore. These stamps must be paid for at the full value marked on them just as British officers pay for them.

As regards *foreign* correspondence and *foreign* parcels:—

IX. All these must be prepaid in Mysore in Imperial (not over-printed) stamps or cash only and all postage due on such articles, whether received or despatched, is to be remitted to the Imperial Post Office.

The reason for this is that the postage does not belong to the British Indian Post Office; but all and more than all is paid to the British Post Office and the Post Offices of foreign countries. Mysore cannot therefore be allowed any share in the revenue from them.

7. The above are the main general points in the scheme; and for details I would refer you to the convention itself and to the rules framed under it; and I will now go on to certain local matters on which I ascertained an understanding will be necessary.

I. The Bangalore Post Office being in a British Cantonment will remain British and all Anche Offices to be removed from British Territory.

II. Imperial Post Offices at Hassan, Kolar and other places in Mysore to be given up to Mysore.

III. The mail service on the Railways to be given over to the control of the Inspector-General, Railway Mail Service. But letters posted in the portable letter boxes to be stamped with Mysore stamps and British stamps not to be recognized.

This provision is necessary, because the Railways are the postal arteries of India, and it is absolutely necessary they should be controlled by one organization. The Railways, doubtless, will a few years hence cross Mysore into British Territory, and the Imperial Post must have control over the sorting arrangements in them. If it be reflected how matters would work if every Native State in Rajputana for instance, through which the Rajputana State Railway runs had its own sorters on different pieces of the line, it can be easily imagined what importance must necessarily be attached to the principle.

IV. The British foot-line from Seringapatam onwards to be handed over to Mysore, if Mysore wishes it. Mysore undertaking to keep it in its present state of efficiency.

I have acceded to this at the special request of the Anche Bakshi, not by way of surrendering the right which the British Government has always maintained to run Imperial Postal lines through native territory; but because I believe the Anche Bakshi will manage it as well as it is managed now, and because I wish to show that though the Imperial Post Office must control Railway sorting, I am willing to surrender to the Anche Bakshi anything I can reasonably and safely do.

8. If my first proposition is accepted by the Government of Mysore, the details of the second need no consideration. If however it is decided to reject the first then I would wish that the second be placed before the Darbar.

9. If the Darbar accepts the outlines of the second scheme, then the best plan will be, I think, for me to depute the Post Master General, Madras, to meet the Anche Bakshi and work out a detailed agreement with him. Each can refer to his own superior, if necessary, in cases of disagreement. But if, as is more likely, they come to a settlement without disagreement then a convention and detailed rules can be worked out by them. And after the convention has been approved of by me, then if you also agree, it can be sent on to the Government of India for ratification.

10. In case the question be asked how far the rules contained in Government Resolution in the Foreign Department No. 1095, dated 18th July 1866, relative to the responsibility of Native States for highway robberies of Imperial mails would apply to Mysore in the event of an agreement being made, I beg to state that without of course pretending to lay down any law on the subject, the Post Office would, if my first proposal be accepted, consider the rules to be in full force; if the second, then only in force as regards any Imperial line maintained in Mysore (which I believe would be nil) the responsibility of Mysore would extend to no more than the responsibility of the British Post Office itself in the case of highway robberies in British Territory, that is to insured articles only.

From the Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of India, to the Director-General of the Post Office of India, No. 2569, Simla, the 1st August 1884.

With reference to your communication No. 58, dated 5th July 1884, I am directed to state that there is no objection to your starting negotiations for a postal convention with Mysore on the understanding that they are carried on in communication with the Resident, and that nothing is finally settled without the sanction of the Government of India.

Dewan's Note.—Circulated to Members of His Highness the Maharaja's Council for opinion.

A. I am of opinion that the proposal for the complete surrender of Postal arrangements to the British Government possesses several great advantages as follows :—

(1) Mysore is relieved of all responsibility ;

(2) Mysore is not obliged to maintain the department at a loss ;

(3) The Special British establishment can manage the department better than Mysore can do ;

and (4) Mysore will get the full benefit of all new improvements such as the Money Order, Insurance and Value Payable Systems, without having to pay anything for them. The State will merely have to pay for service correspondence at the small rates which are in force in British India for such correspondence.

and B. The alternative proposal throws great responsibility on Mysore. It involves the improvement of existing establishment ; a control more efficient than now exists would be necessary if we are to introduce the label system and have besides Post Office Money Orders, Insured and Value Payable Parcels and other arrangements of a commercial character, requiring a trustworthy and reliable agency at all Post Offices.

K. SHESHADRI IYER.

10th October 1884.

OPINIONS OF COUNCILLORS.

On a mature deliberation of the question in all its bearings, I am inclined to agree with the Dewan in thinking, that our entire Postal management might be handed over to the British Government. The probable amount which the Mysore State will have to pay for its service letter is not given ; but this, I presume, will be taken into consideration in concluding the convention, as also the charge it will have to bear on account of pensions and gratuities. It should also, I think, be stipulated that the services of our Rural revenue and Police agency be not indented upon in the delivery and despatch of letters in the interior, and that a provision should be made for the despatch of expresses to places inaccessible to the Railway and Telegraph.

11th October 1884. P. KRISHNA RAO.

The proposal of the Director-General of Post Office in India to take up the entire management of the Mysore Postal Department into his hands is to my mind a very favorable one that I am inclined in favor of the transfer.

The present working of the Anche entails a loss to Government of nearly Rs. 70,000 a year as will be seen in the current year's budget. Allowing that the expenses attending the purchase of service stamps for the transmission of our official correspondence which I presume cannot exceed about Rs. 50,000, there will still leave a balance in our favor.

The Dewan rightly observes that this entire surrender possesses several great advantages over the Anche system, and I therefore fully concur in the opinion expressed by him.

11th October 1884. A. R. SABHAPATI MUDALIAR.

I am also in favor of the first proposal made by the Director-General. We may agree to it as a tentative measure subject to confirmation of the arrangement after the expiration of say two or three years, or adoption of the alternative proposal.

With regard to service letters, as, under the proposed arrangement the Government of India will have the benefit of the Postal stamp revenue, and the surplus after meeting the expenditure will go to that Government, it is nothing but fair that the service correspondence within the Mysore State should be carried free of charge. Service covers sent out of Mysore may be charged with postage. This I would propose as one of the conditions of the proposed surrender.

With regard to pensions and gratuities, I think the Mysore State should undertake to pay the pensions and gratuities of the officials employed in the Anche Department in proportion to the period of service rendered up to the date of surrender.

13th October 1884. T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY.

From the Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, to the Dewan of Mysore,
No. 1409—272, dated Bangalore, 29th August 1885.

With reference to letter No. 1313—215, dated 13th September 1884, from this office and connected correspondence, I am directed to forward a copy of letter No. 3489, dated 11th June 1885, from the Director-General of the Post Office in India, regarding the proposed amalgamation of the Mysore Anche with the Imperial Post.

An important preliminary point which requires to be cleared up at the outset of any consideration of this subject, is to ascertain the actual value of the official postage carried free in Mysore. The estimate framed by the Darbar under this head apparently reaches the sum of Rs. 1,25,000 per annum, but the Director-General of Post Office gives analogous reasons for doubting whether it exceeds Rs. 15,000 a year.

3. The question as to which of these estimates of the value of official correspondence in Mysore, according to the rates of service postage in force under the rules of the Imperial Post is correct, can easily be decided if the Darbar will be good enough to favor the Officiating Resident with a statement showing the *weight in tolas* of official correspondence carried on an average in a year. With information on this point, the probable result in a financial aspect, of the change which would be involved by the adoption of the Director-General's first proposition referred to in the letter enclosed, could be foretold with little difficulty.

4. Mr. Girdlestone would be obliged if this information could be furnished at an early date.

From the Director-General of the Post Office of India, to the Resident in Mysore,
No. 3489, dated Simla, the 11th June 1885.

In allusion to my letter No. 5424 of the 6th August 1884, which I would ask you kindly to peruse, I have the honor to address you on the subject of the proposed amalgamation of the Mysore Anche with the Imperial Post.

2. Mr. Hutchinson, the Post Master General, Madras, had an interview with the Mysore Council in January last, the result of which he reported to this office. My *locum tenens* then thought it best to let the matter lie over till my return from duty in Europe. It will therefore be convenient if I commence by quoting the material points of the Post Master General's report.

"I have the honor to submit that I made through the Resident an appoint-
"ment to meet the Mysore Council on Thursday the 8th instant. At this meeting
"which was held in the Council Chamber at Bangalore, your letter No. 5424, dated
"6th August 1884, was brought forward by the Dewan, who informed me that the
"Mysore Government raised two objections to proposition one, the formation of the
"Mysore State into a British Postal Circle."

The first of these objections is based on para 2 of your letter last quoted. In that para it is stated—

"I am willing to take over the whole of the Mysore Postal Establishments, pay "them from Imperial revenues and treat Mysore in all Postal matters exactly as if "it were the most favored British Province."

and at close of para 3 of the same letter—

"I believe that the postal service is now worked at a loss to the State of more "than a lakh of rupees. Of this loss, I am ready to relieve the State."

Quotations from para 2 continued—

"Under this arrangement State correspondence would be carried at the cheap "official postage rates prepaid by service stamps."

"With reference to this last point, the Dewan represented that the expenditure "incurred on the Anche Post averages for the last two years above one lakh and "forty-one thousand rupees, that receipts derived from private correspondence, etc., "amount to fifty-eight thousand leaving a deficit of eighty-three thousand rupees; "but this deficit covered the cost of conveying one lakh and twenty-five thousand "official correspondence during the year, and he represented that if the State gave "up the management of its post on the understanding that the cost thereof would "be defrayed by the British Government, but still had to pay one lakh and twenty-"five thousand a year for official postage, the proceeding would confer no advantage; "but on the other hand a loss to the State as the amount given below tends to "show.

Under existing arrangement			Under proposition No. 1	
	Rs.	a. p.		
Receipts, official postage	1,25,000	0 0		
From private correspondence	58,000	0 0	Payment for official postage stamps.....	1,25,000 0 0
	1,83,000	0 0		
Expenditure	1,41,000	0 0		
Profit ...	42,000	0 0		

"so that in place of a nominal profit of Rs. 42,000 as now exhibited, there would be "a loss to the State of Rs. 1,25,000 to be paid for official service lables. The Dewan "further represented, reading from some paper on the Baroda State, that with re-"ference to the Postal arrangements in that State, it appeared, that the British Post "Office bore the charges of the State correspondence."

With regard to the second objection, namely that conveyed in para 10 of your letter under quotation, the Dewan showed that under existing arrangements and under such as would come into force, were a convention "similar to the Pattiala one "adopted, Mysore State would have no Imperial lines throughout the territory "and would therefore have no responsibility as to highway robberies, but should it "become a British Postal Province under proposition one, the whole of the Postal "lines in the Mysore State would become Imperial lines and the responsibility of the "State would then extend to every corner of it. The Dewan suggested that the "settlement of questions of this sort should not be included in any postal agreement "but he referred to the Political Department for settlement."

3. From the above you will see that the Mysore Government is afraid that if the Imperial Post Office takes over the Anche, with its receipts and liabilities, the Mysore State will be a loser. The expenditure is now Rs. 1,41,000 in cash; and the receipts from private correspondence being Rs. 58,000, the net actual loss out of pocket is Rs. 83,000. But the Mysore Government estimates the value of official postage carried free at Rs. 1,25,000, and so calculates that the Anche is worked at a nominal profit of Rs. 42,000. It considers then that even if the Imperial Post Office relieved it of all expenditures on the Anche coupled with the condition that service covers should be paid in service stamps, it would still have to pay Rs. 1,25,000 a year so that instead of gaining a nominal profit Rs. 42,000 it would lose actually Rs. 1,25,000.

4. I am happy to be able to assure the Mysore Government that its estimate of the cost of service stamps is far too high. I cannot help thinking the estimate must have been calculated at the ordinary postage rates, whereas you are aware service rates are incomparably cheaper, a service letter weighing not more than 10 tolas being carried for 1 anna whereas a private letter of the same weight costs 10 annas. Moreover service postage stamps directly conduce to economy in the use of the post, and if they were in vogue gentlemen could no longer send heavy articles of furniture by letter dak as I have heard has been done before now in Mysore. Take actual figures. The Imperial Government with its Army, Marine, Political, Customs, Salt, Opium, Survey and other highly organized and expensive establishments such as do not exist in Mysore, excepting, I believe, the Army and Survey Department, and that not nearly on so large a scale, spends 15 lakhs a year in service stamps. The population of British India is roughly 200 millions. That of Mysore is roughly 4 millions. *Cæteris paribus*, therefore, the service stamps of Mysore should cost Rs. 30,000 a year. Take another calculation. If the expenditure of the Imperial Government be called 75 crores, and that of Mysore one crore, then if the former spends 15 lakhs on service stamps annually, Mysore at the same time would spend just Rs. 20,000; and if allowance be made for British Departments which do not exist in Mysore, I think, I may safely put the expenditure at less say Rs. 15,000. As a matter of fact, in Baroda which is a highly organized Native State of the Mahratta type, with an elaborate ryotwari settlement and great heirarchy of village and taluk officials, etc., the actual expenditure on service labels (and all the States' letters are carried by the Imperial Post) is about Rs. 18,000 annually. This is an actual, not an estimated sum, and represents the cost paid to the British Treasuries from which the stamps are purchased. (The belief that the British Government carries the Gayikwari State's letters free is erroneous.)

5. It is quite clear, therefore, that if the Mysore Government will adopt my first proposition, *viz.*, that made in para 2 of my letter No. 5424 of 6th August 1884, instead of having a net annual loss of Rs. 83,000 in cash, it will only have to spend some Rs. 15,000 or Rs. 20,000 on service labels and the finances of the State will be the gainers of upwards of Rs. 60,000 a year.

6. Of the disadvantages of the present system, I need not speak. The strangling of correspondence and the consequent obstruction to trade and diffusion of knowledge which are due to the antiquated arrangement for payment of postage *in cash*, cannot, I am sure, be allowed by the present enlightened administration to continue any longer. The *pis aller* of a convention I can only deprecate, as I know, and I make no apology for saying so, that the postal system in Mysore can never by its own unassisted endeavours approach that pitch of development and perfection which it could, if taken in hand and fostered by all the experience and resources of the Imperial Post. The Imperial Post Office would willingly invest largely in meeting new postal demands and stimulating postal activity in Mysore, in a manner which, without reflecting in the least on the present administration, would, I am convinced, be both beyond its means and outside all its experience. Perhaps therefore you will allow me to repeat my offer to the Mysore Government through you, to take over the whole of the Mysore Anche and make it an integral portion of the Imperial Post. From a postal point of view, I am sure that the offer is liberal and its acceptance will, I feel confident, ensure greater postal benefits to the officials, traders and subjects generally of His Highness the Maharaja than any other arrangement that can be come to.

7. As for the responsibility of the Mysore Government for highway robberies in case my proposal be adopted, that is a political, not a postal question, and will be settled as such. All I would here say in reference to it, is, that whatever the rules of the Government of India may be on the subject, I do not think myself that the Government of Mysore need let them stand in the way. There is no more reason to suppose that highway robberies would be tolerated or be more likely to occur under His Highness the Maharaja's Administration than under that of the British Government itself.

8. I shall be glad if you will let me know in due course whether the Mysore Government is disposed to accept my proposal.

From the Dewan to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, to the Resident in Mysore, No. 31—Enclosure No. 1, dated 18th November 1885.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your office letter No. 1409 —272, dated 29th August last, and as requested therein to forward herewith a statement showing the number and weight of official letters, parcels and packets carried by the local post during the past two years, and the postage leviable thereon at the British rates for official postage. The statement has been carefully prepared by the Anche Bakshi, and may be accepted as reliable. What economy in the use of the post for official purposes will result from the introduction of the British Postal system is a question on which I do not think it possible at present to form an opinion.

2. During 1884-85, the total cost of the local post was Rs. 1,26,660 and its earnings only Rs. 61,607. To the latter amount must however be added the postage chargeable on official correspondence, namely Rs. 1,13,782, as shown in the statement already referred to, thus virtually increasing the total earnings to Rs. 1,75,389, as compared with a total cost of Rs. 1,26,660.

3. On the other hand, however, there are great advantages to be gained by an amalgamation of the local post with the Imperial Postal system. I have always recognized these advantages and I had occasion at the last Dasara to state fully my views on the subject.

4. At the meeting of the people from all parts of the Province during the last Dasara, it was however ascertained that the transfer of the local post will be a measure extremely unpopular. His Highness' Government have given the matter their very careful attention and have arrived at the opinion that it would at present be extremely inexpedient to transfer the local post to the Imperial system in the way proposed. They are however prepared at once to accept the alternative proposal made by Mr. James in his letter to your predecessor, No. 5424, dated 6th August 1884. Under this proposal, which is to be on the basis of the recent convention with the Pattiala State, His Highness' Government will introduce into Mysore all the Rules of the Imperial Postal system, and there will be complete reciprocity in all postal matters between the Local and Imperial Postal Departments.

From the Officiating Resident in Mysore, to the Dewan of Mysore, No. 1363—395, dated Bangalore, 15th May 1886.

With reference to your letter No. 31, dated the 18th of November 1885, and subsequent reminder dated 19th April 1886, No. 684—41, I do myself the honor of informing you that a letter has now been received from the Director-General of Post Offices in India to the effect that the alternative scheme for the management of the post in Mysore, which the Darbar has intimated its readiness to accept, has in the case of other States to which it has been applied been found to have some practical inconveniences. Consequently till further experience has been gained, the Director-General is averse to the introduction of the measure elsewhere.

2. The importance of arranging for greater postal facilities in this country has been duly pressed on the Director-General, as on the Darbar; and it is my hope that at no distant date an opportunity may present itself of reconsidering the matter.

From the Dewan of Mysore, to the Resident in Mysore, No. 28, dated Mysore, 2nd November 1886.

With reference to correspondence ending with Mr. Girdlestone's letter No. 1363—395, dated the 15th May last, on the subject of the introduction of the Imperial Postal system in Mysore, I have the honor to request to be informed whether there would be any objection to the Darbar using, in supersession of the present Anche payment system, their own postage labels of the pattern herewith forwarded. I beg to add that His Highness Government consider the change above proposed highly desirable, but it is not their wish to resort to it, if there be any prospect of the Director-General of Post Offices being able to agree, as regards Mysore, to an arrangement such as has been entered into by the Imperial Postal Department with the Pattiala State.

15th August 1887.

My Dear Dewan,

I quite forgot when you were with me the other day to mention the Post Office affair. As Mr. Durand's letter to me is now 6 weeks old and the Government of India seem anxious about the matter, I should be very glad if you could put me in a position to reply before you leave for Mysore especially as there may be some points of detail raised which it would be convenient to discuss orally. I see on looking at some statements prepared by the Anche Bakshi that if the Postal Department undertook to perform the whole postal services for you and to carry your official dak in Mysore for nothing the net saving to Mysore revenues would be taking the figures of 1886—87 (1,26,972—2—11 minus 65,850—12—10) =Rs. 61,121—6—1 per annum. His Highness when I mentioned the matter to him the other day seemed disposed to accept the offer.

On the advantages to the people of Mysore in having the service in all its branches performed in the way in which the British Postal Department alone can perform it and in having the way opened for an extension of telegraphic communication also I need not dwell.

Yours sincerely,
D. FITZPATRICK.

MYSORE,
12th November 1887.

My Dear Dewan,

It may be intersting to the Darbar to know that the arrangements regarding the Post Office in the Mysore State discussed by you and Mr. Fitzpatrick have been approved by the Government of India and that an official letter will issue from the Foreign office in order to obtain the formal consent of His Highness the Maharaja.

As the letter will be similar to that written to other States, the rules which impose liability upon Native State for losses by mail robberies will be retained, but I am empowered to assure you that so long as the Police of Mysore remain as efficient and well managed as they now are, the Government of India have no intention of enforcing the rules against the State.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
H. N. D. PRENDERGAST.

MYSORE,
28th November 1887.

My Dear Sir,

I have duly submitted to His Highness the Maharaja, both your D. O. letter dated 12th and your official letter dated 24th instant, in regard to the surrender to the British Government of the entire Postal arrangements in Mysore. His Highness accepts the proposal made by the Government of India, and I accordingly send you to-day a formal official reply. His Highness however asks me to request you demi-officially to be so good as to convey his best thanks to the Government of India for the very considerate manner in which they have dealt with the question of the responsibility of this State for mail robberies under the Government Resolution in the Foreign Department, No. 2495 I, dated Simla, 29th July 1885. The assurance now given that the Government of India have no intention of enforcing the rules in question against this State so long as the Police of Mysore remain as efficient and well managed as they now are, is all that can be reasonably expected, and His Highness is highly grateful that His Excellency the Vicerory has been able to grant this concession.

The transfer of the Postal administration to the British Government will be somewhat unpopular in the Province but it would greatly reduce the unpopularity

of the measure if the British Postal Department will take over our present establishment and continue to employ such portions of it as may be fit for their work. From the same point of view, it would be of obvious advantage to carry into effect the proposal which the Director-General, Post Office, made in para 2 of his letter to your predecessor No. 5424, dated 6th August 1884, regarding the creation of the post of a Deputy Post Master General, Mysore, and the nomination of the present Anche Bakshi to that appointment.

With best regards,
Yours sincerely,
K. SHESHADRI IYER,
Dewan.

From the Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, to the Dewan of Mysore, Camp No. 25, dated Camp Virarajendrapet, 24th November 1887.

With reference to your letter No. 28, dated 2nd November 1886, submitting a proposal of the Mysore Durbar for the introduction of their own postage stamps in supersession of the existing Anche payment system, I am directed to inform you that the scheme does not commend itself to the Governor-General in Council. The Government of India have, however, for some time had under careful consideration the whole question of the postal arrangements in Mysore, and are willing to make a concession in another direction which will, they anticipate, be both advantageous and acceptable to the Mysore State.

2. If the Mysore Durbar will consent to make over absolutely to the Imperial Postal Department the entire management and control of postal arrangements in Mysore, the Government of India, I am to say, will undertake to carry for nothing within the limits of Mysore the whole official correspondence of the State, and to accept full liability for the whole postal expenditure.

3. I am to enquire whether the Durbar see any objection to according their formal assent to the above proposal of the Government of India, and to add that as soon as the general principle has been accepted, details can be arranged.

From the Dewan to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, to the Resident in Mysore, No. 24, dated Camp Mysore, 28th November 1887.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your office letter No. (Camp) 25, dated 24th November 1887, and in reply to state that the Durbar have much pleasure in accepting the proposal made by the Government of India for the absolute transfer to the British Government of the entire management and control of postal arrangements in Mysore on the terms specified in para 2 of the letter under reply, namely, that the whole postal expenditure in Mysore be borne by the British Government and that the whole of the official correspondence of the State be carried within the limits of Mysore, free of any cost, to the Darbar.

2. The "Anche" (or Local Post) of Mysore is an ancient institution. The extension of it throughout the whole Province (about A. D. 1672) was one of the earliest measures of the reign of Chikka Devaraj Wadayar. On grounds of sentiment, therefore, the Darbar always felt some hesitation in agreeing to sever its connection from an old institution so peculiar to Mysore, while on the other hand the popular feeling has invariably been opposed to any such transfer. But after very careful consideration, His Highness the Maharaja is satisfied that the numerous public advantages likely to result from an amalgamation of the Local with the British Post, must outweigh all minor considerations, and he accordingly agrees to the complete surrender to the British Government of all postal arrangements in Mysore.

3. If it is proposed to depute a British officer to study the details of the arrangements necessary for giving effect to the transfer, the Anche Bakshi and other Darbar officers will be instructed to give him all information required. His Highness' Government will also take the needful legislative action on the lines of the Indian Post Office Act, XIV of 1866, or in such other direction as the Government of India may consider necessary.

At present, there exist in Mysore—

170 Regular Post Offices in charge of separate Mutsaddis, or Post Masters; and
253 Village Post Offices in charge of Local School Masters, Shanbhogs (or village accountants), etc., who get an allowance of from Re. 1 to Rs. 3 per month for the Post Office work.

It would be a great convenience to the Darbar if the British Postal Department would continue to employ such members of the present Local Postal establishment as may be fit for the work required of them under the British system; the pensions of the men so employed being regulated according to the Rule of Proportion laid down in the Civil Pension Code or in such other manner as may be agreed upon.

Acnhe

GPB—200—19-5-13.